

FOUR FINE OHIO PIPES

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In the accompanying plate are pictured four fine Ohio pipes. The upper two examples are probably from the Late Woodland Period while the bottom two pipes are classic Intrusive Mound specimens.

The two upper examples are varieties of the elbow type pipe which are extremely rare in Ohio and elsewhere. One variety — top left — is crescent-shaped with a tall bowl and a gently curving elbow. These are often made of very exotic stone such as chlorite or pipestone. The

second variety — top right — has a sharp right angle at the bowl much like our modern day pipes

Intrusive Mound culture pipes are also rare. They are typical of the Late Woodland Intrusive Mound people who moved into Ohio after the demise of the Hopewell Culture probably around 600 to 700 AD. There is good reason to believe that the origins of these people lie in Michigan. Their pipes are typified by a straight platform with a bowl which is set slightly forward of center. From the smoking end a

ridge to accommodate the stem hole runs to the bowl. There is no ridge in front of the bowl. Extremely rare specimens of this variety have bowls carved in effigy depictions.

Quite often pipes of the lower pictured variety are made of black steatite. However, pipestone is not unusual. A number of the black steatite pipes have extra-long platforms. Many of them are damaged because of their fragile design and softness of the stone they are carved from.



Top left - Curved elbow type pipe made of pipestone
Top right - Right angled elbow pipe made of Ohio pipestone.
Bottom left - Classic Intrusive Mound platform pipe of black steatite.
Bottom right - Intrusive Mound pipe made of Ohio pipestone